

its color throughout may be white, or sometimes of a delicate pinkish or greenish tint.

It is generally believed that the faunae of South America and West Africa are distinctly related. The microscopic sculpture of the Mutelidae of the two regions offers another though slight confirmation of this belief. If the Mutelidae of the two regions had a common ancestry it is striking that a minute detail like this should have survived the great changes wrought by Nature through the use of time, place, circumstance, segregation, or any or all of the elements which are supposed to enter into the variations found in animal form and structure.

Still unanswered is the old query: "Which came first, the hen or the egg?" The survival of details during the progress of variation might give rise to another query: Which lasts longer, basic structure or apparently unimportant details?

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW DESERT HELICID SNAIL

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY AND STANLEY C. FIELD

HELMINTHOGLYPTA GRANITICOLA ARIDA, new subspecies.
Vol. 44, pl. 7, fig. 5.

Hill opposite cement quarry, 5 miles north of Victorville, San Bernardino Co., California. Type and paratypes coll. ANSP., collected by Mr. Stanley C. Field; other paratypes in his collection.

The shell is depressed, umbilicate, the umbilicus contained 6 to 6½ times in the diameter: between cinnamon-buff and chamois colored, with a narrow chestnut band above the periphery. The surface is somewhat glossy. First third of a whorl is smoothish, followed by an area of rather coarse radial wrinkles, partly interrupted into oblong granules, continuing nearly to the end of the first whorl, then changing to fine, wavy radial wrinkles. On the intermediate

whorls there are retractive growth wrinkles and forwardly descending series of minute rather inconspicuous papillae, which are scarcely visible on the last whorl, where the wrinkles are smooth or in places slightly roughened. The whorls are convex and increase slowly. The suture is rather deeply impressed throughout, and descends very little in front. The aperture is shortly oval, peristome very narrowly expanded basally, slightly dilated at the columellar margin.

Height 9 mm., diam. 15.5 mm.; $5\frac{1}{4}$ whorls.

This form differs from *H. mohaveana* (= *H. riparia*) and *H. jaegeri* by its more closely coiled whorls, the last one noticeably narrower in an apical view. It resembles *H. graniticola* Berry in this respect, but differs from that by the decidedly wider umbilicus, contained 6 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ times in the diameter, while in *H. graniticola* it is contained 8 times.

NOTES ON ACMAEA FUNICULATA (CARPENTER)

BY G. D. HANNA AND ALLYN G. SMITH

There seems to be much uncertainty regarding this interesting shell. It was described only too briefly by Carpenter from Monterey, California, in 1864, and has never been figured. Pilsbry gave a translation in 1891, and this was copied verbatim by Oldroyd in 1927. The little additional published information may be found in the citations below.

We recently enjoyed a day of dredging in Monterey Bay, and among other interesting things we obtained a fine shell of this form. It was "dead" but in excellent condition.

While discussing the generic determination recently with Mr. George Willett, he agreed that there was some doubt as to the correctness of the assignment to "*Acmaea*" where it has been placed since Pilsbry wrote his treatise. Mr. Willett had much additional information to offer. He has dredged it at Forrester Island, Alaska, and in the channel